

Claims

1. An information processing apparatus comprising:

means for acquiring television program information including information concerning television program contents;

means for extracting a characteristic word representing characteristics of said television program from said television program information;

first means for creating a first file containing said characteristic word extracted from television program information about a plurality of television programs and providing said file to other apparatuses; and

second means for, if receiving information from said other apparatuses, namely, information about a given characteristic word selected from said first file, providing said other apparatuses with television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word..

2. An information processing method comprising:

a step of acquiring television program information including information concerning television program contents;

a step of extracting a characteristic word representing characteristics of said television program from said television program information;

a first step of creating a first file containing said characteristic word extracted from television program

information about a plurality of television programs and providing said file to other apparatuses; and

a second step of, if receiving information from said other apparatuses, namely, information about a given characteristic word selected from said first file, providing said other apparatuses with television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word.

3. A program to allow a computer to perform:

a step of acquiring television program information including information concerning television program contents;

a step of extracting a characteristic word representing characteristics of said television program from said television program information;

a first step of creating a first file containing said characteristic word extracted from television program information about a plurality of television programs and providing said file to other apparatuses; and

a second step of, if receiving information from said other apparatuses, namely, information about a given characteristic word selected from said first file, providing said other apparatuses with television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word.

4. An information processing apparatus comprising:

means for acquiring a television program ID for identifying a specific television program and television program information including information concerning television program contents;

means for extracting a characteristic word representing characteristics of said television program from said television program information;

first means for creating a first file containing said characteristic word extracted from television program information about a plurality of television programs and providing said file to other apparatuses; and

means for associating said characteristic word with a television program ID of a television program information corresponding to each characteristic word for storage; and

second means for, if receiving information from said other apparatuses, namely, information about a given characteristic word selected from said first file, referencing said association means, reading a television program ID associated with said selected characteristic word, and providing said other apparatuses with television program information corresponding to said television program ID.

5. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said characteristic word extraction means counts the number of occurrences of a given word contained in each of said television program information and extracts a word having a large count value as said characteristic word.

6. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4,
wherein said characteristic word extraction means
analyzes a sentence contained in said television program
information and extracts said characteristic word from a
remaining part except a part corresponding to a specified
prescription.

7. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4,
wherein said characteristic word extraction means
extracts a predetermined word as said characteristic word.

8. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4,
wherein said characteristic word extraction means
prevents a predetermined word from being extracted as said
characteristic word.

9. The information processing apparatus according to claim 4,
wherein said characteristic word extraction means
determines whether or not a synonym is found in a plurality of
words extracted as said characteristic words and, if a synonym
is determined to be found, converts said extracted word into
a specified word and extracts it as a characteristic word.

10. The information processing apparatus according to claim
4,

wherein said first provision means determines whether

or not said first file already stores a characteristic word extracted by said characteristic word extraction means and, if already stored, does not add said characteristic word to said first file.

11. An information processing method comprising:

- a step of acquiring a television program ID for identifying a specific television program and television program information including information concerning television program contents;

- a step of extracting a characteristic word representing characteristics of said television program from said television program information;

- a first step of creating a first file containing said characteristic word extracted from television program information about a plurality of television programs and providing said file to other apparatuses; and

- a step of associating said characteristic word with a television program ID of a television program information corresponding to each characteristic word for storage; and

- a second step of, if receiving information from said other apparatuses, namely, information about a given characteristic word selected from said first file, referencing said association step, reading a television program ID associated with said selected characteristic word, and providing said other apparatuses with television program information corresponding to said television program ID.

12. A program to allow a computer to perform:

a step of acquiring a television program ID for identifying a specific television program and television program information including information concerning television program contents;

a step of extracting a characteristic word representing characteristics of said television program from said television program information;

a first step of creating a first file containing said characteristic word extracted from television program information about a plurality of television programs and providing said file to other apparatuses; and

a step of associating said characteristic word with a television program ID of a television program information corresponding to each characteristic word for storage; and

a second step of, if receiving information from said other apparatuses, namely, information about a given characteristic word selected from said first file, referencing said association step, reading a television program ID associated with said selected characteristic word, and providing said other apparatuses with television program information corresponding to said television program ID.

13. An information processing apparatus comprising:

first means for receiving a file containing information about a characteristic word representing a

characteristic of a television program;

input means for allowing a user to select an intended characteristic word from characteristic words contained in said file;

means for transmitting information about a characteristic word selected by said user to other apparatuses; and

second means for receiving television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word transmitted from said other apparatuses as a result of transmitting information about said selected characteristic word.

14. The information processing apparatus according to claim 13,

wherein said first reception means receives a file containing information about said characteristic word from said other apparatuses.

15. An information processing method comprising:

a first step of controlling reception of a file containing information about a characteristic word representing a characteristic of a television program;

an input step of allowing a user to select an intended characteristic word from characteristic words contained in said file;

a step of controlling transmission of information

about a characteristic word selected by said user to other apparatuses; and

a second step of controlling reception of television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word transmitted from said other apparatuses as a result of transmitting information about said selected characteristic word.

16. A program to allow a computer to perform:

a first step of controlling reception of a file containing information about a characteristic word representing a characteristic of a television program;

an input step of allowing a user to select an intended characteristic word from characteristic words contained in said file;

a step of controlling transmission of information about a characteristic word selected by said user to other apparatuses; and

a second step of controlling reception of television program information about a television program corresponding to said selected characteristic word transmitted from said other apparatuses as a result of transmitting information about said selected characteristic word.